

Amendments to the Specification:

The paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5 has been amended as follows:

-- United States Patent 5,896,669 discloses an operating substance tank for a portable handheld work apparatus, namely, for an overhead branch cutter. The tank is configured as one piece and has a fill opening for lubricating oil as well as a discharge opening for conducting the lubricating oil to a guide bar having a saw chain running along the periphery thereof. The operating substance tank is connected to an attachment flange for the guide bar. The operating substance tank includes a filter platelet as filter on its discharge opening for the lubricating oil conducted away by a piston pump. In operation, dirt particles are carried into the tank housing when filling the operating substance tank and can lead to a clogging of the discharge opening because of the small filter area which is available. --

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 28 has been amended as follows:

-- As shown in FIG. 3, the housing parts of the operating substance tank are connected to each other with the interposition of a solid material seal 18 which comes to lie on the partition surfaces 17 of the housing parts. The solid material seal 18 is preferably formed from a two-component sealing mass 19 which is sprayed onto a partition surface 17 and sets before the housing parts are connected to each other (see FIG. 4). The housing parts can be connected to each other ~~form-tight, material-tight or force-tight~~ form-tight.

material-tight or force-tight so that, for example, a one piece operating substance tank is formed with a material tight connection of the two housing parts. --